

AWP's Eighteenth Tweet Chat: #AWPMentorship
July 14, 2016 from 2:00-3:00 p.m. ET



[AWP @awpwriter](#)

Writers of all levels! Hop to our tweet chat, today at 2pm ET, about our mentorship program.
Use [#AWPMentorship](#)



#AWPMentorship

Writer to Writer,
AWP's Mentorship
Program

July 14, 2016 from 2:00-3:00 pm ET



[DiverseThoughtLLC @DiverseMac](#)

looking forward to [#AWPMentorship](#) session



[R.L. Maizes @RL_Maizes](#)

Great program. Tweetchat starts in 5 minutes. [#AWPMentorship](#)



[Rachel Mennies @rmennies](#)

moments away! [#AWPmentorship](#)



[AWP @awpwriter](#)

Thanks for tuning in to the [#AWPmentorship](#) tweet chat! We hope it will help you decide whether or not this program is "write" for you.



[AWP @awpwriter](#)

With us today is Membership Director and Writer to Writer Mentorship Program creator, [@DianeZinna](#)! [#AWPmentorship](#)



[AWP @awpwriter](#)

Also answering your questions for the tweet chat: our Membership Associate, Kenny Lakes ([@usyboroda](#)). [#AWPmentorship](#)





[AWP @awpwriter](#)

To ask a question about AWP's Writer to Writer Mentorship Program at any time, use the hashtag [#AWPmentorship](#).



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Hello! I am Diane Zinna & today I'll be tweeting about our wonderful Writer to Writer Mentorship Program! [#awpmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Also on w/ us today are many past mentors & mentees--they are here to help answer your questions about Writer to Writer! [#awpmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

I'll tweet info about W2W and our upcoming mentee application period (8/1-8/12) plus lots of participant quotes & photos [#awpmentorship](#)



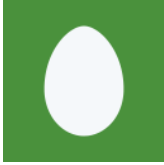
[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Mentor applications are accepted all year. Mentee applications are welcome on Submittable 8/1-8/12 for our Fall 2016 session. [#awpmentorship](#)



[R.L. Maizes @RL_Maizes](#)

The window for mentee applications is short. Don't miss it! [#AWPmentorship](#)



[Nancy Hawkins @NancyHa38987620](#)

[@DianeZinna](#) How does a writer choose a mentee?



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

[@NancyHa38987620](#) Hi Nancy! We give each mentor 3-4 apps and they choose the person they feel they can most help. [#awpmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

A quote from mentor Jennifer Morales [#AWPmentorship](#)



"If you think your work is good, then fight for it. Pester everyone you know to advocate for you. And don't give up."

—Jennifer Morales,
W2W Fiction Mentor, Fall 2015



Writer to Writer
AWP'S MENTORSHIP PROGRAM



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

A quote from mentee Khara House. [#awpmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

We have about 7,000 individual members, and many are writers who have never been associated with an MFA program. [#awpmentorship](#)



[Michael Wells @stickpoet](#)

[@DianeZinna](#) [#AWPmentorship](#) That's interesting because when I joined in 2014 I assumed I must have been one of only a few with no MFA



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Definitely not, Michael! [#awpmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

We also wanted to do something for those who are writing from backgrounds typically underrepresented in the literary world. [#awpmentorship](#)



[Jennifer Morales @MoralesWrites](#)

Going on now: Is [#AWPmentorship](#) "write" for you?



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

We encourage apps fm writers of color, LGBTQ & disability communities, those w/ no MFA. [#awpmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

We don't just match people and step away! We check in regularly and provide space for participants to connect & share tips [#awpmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Being involved with the program all along the way is personally rewarding to me and helps me better understand our members. [#awpmentorship](#)



[Michael Wells @stickpoet](#)

[@awpwriter @DianeZinna](#) Hi Diane, as someone who applied multiple times, is the demand way outpacing the number of mentors?



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

[@stickpoet @awpwriter](#) Hi Michael! Your new website looks amazing, btw. We do try to keep the program small. [#awpmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

[@stickpoet @awpwriter](#) We do not accept every mentor who applies. Each session about 50% of the participants applied before. [#awpmentorship](#)



[Michael Wells @stickpoet](#)

[@DianeZinna @awpwriter](#) Thanks [@DianeZinna](#) - Hope other writers will take advantage of the .ink deal. It's a great service.



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

A quote from fiction mentor Alice Sebold [#awpmentorship](#)



[Listen to KittyMouth @stefburn](#)

Is there anything in particular that is being looked for with regards to mentees? [#awpmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

[@stefburn](#) Too often people apply with one-sentence answers to the questions. Tell us enough to find the right match for you! [#awpmentorship](#)



[Rachel Mennies @rmennies](#)

[@DianeZinna @stefburn](#) would def. second this as a former mentor—getting a full picture was so helpful in selecting a mentee! [#AWPmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

A quote from Irene Hoge Smith, AWP mentee last season [#awpmentorship @IreneHSmith](#)



"'Send me everything,' said my generous and enthusiastic mentor, Claude Clayton (Bud) Smith. Knowing he's got my back is a precious gift."

—Irene Hoge Smith, Mentee,
Spring 2016



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Fall '16 will be our 5th session. Application numbers keep growing, so we're bracing ourselves.
[#awpmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Each session we try to match between 15 and 25 pairs, all genres [#awpmentorship](#).



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

We are able to match about 10% of those who apply with a personal mentor [#awpmentorship](#)



[Listen to KittyMouth @stefburn](#)

How often can you apply for the mentee program if you're turned down the first time?
[#AWPmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

[@stefburn](#) 1/2/ You are absolutely encouraged to apply as often as you wish!
[#awpmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

[@stefburn](#) 2/2 It may just be that the mentor right for you is waiting for you in another session. [#awpmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

We look for mentors who will, above all, be supportive, responsive, and open to learning from the experience themselves. [#awpmentorship](#)



[Karin Killian @karinkillian](#)

The awesome sense of community was a surprise bonus of my [#AWPmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Here are our supportive, responsive, amazing W2W mentors from last session:
<http://bit.ly/1r1Cltr> [#awpmentorship](#)



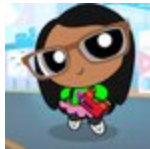
[Ladybuglizzie @sagevalentine](#)

What are the benefits of this mentorship? [#AWPmentorship](#)



[Colette Lunday @ColetteLunday](#)

[@sagevalentine](#) having an [#awpmentorship](#) lets you step out of your comfort zone with a companion and guide



[Ladybuglizzie @sagevalentine](#)

[@ColetteLunday](#) Thank you for answering me :)



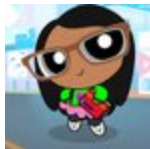
[Colette Lunday @ColetteLunday](#)

[@sagevalentine](#) you are welcome!



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

[@sagevalentine](#) There are so many. For the mentors AND the mentees. To have a writerly friend, a guide, a true listener. [#awpmentorship](#)



[Ladybuglizzie @sagevalentine](#)

[@DianeZinna](#) That's exactly what I need. Thank you for answering me. :)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Mentors volunteer their time and receive a free one-year AWP membership. [#awpmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

When pairing people, we like to think there is a bit of magic at work. [#awpmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Quote from Catherine Keefe, AWP mentee from last season [#awpmentorship](#)



"Use every single moment, piece of advice, and nugget of knowledge you can. Work hard at what you're being taught. Laugh with each other. I tried to always offer my mentor something with each interaction: an observation, a quote, a new book, an invitation to read her work. This kept me from feeling like a take-take-taker. Set commitments to each other. Keep them. Be grateful."

—Catherine Keefe, Mentee, Spring 2016



[Colette Lunday @ColetteLunday](#)

I didn't know I needed a mentor until I had one. I have grown in ways I didn't expect
[#awpmentorship](#)



[Naima Hazelton @NaimaHazelton](#)

When is the mentee application going up? I see the mentor one, so if I could ask past mentees what they focused on...



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Hi, Naima! From August 1-12, the mentee application will be available on Submittable. [#awpmentorship](#)



[Naima Hazelton @NaimaHazelton](#)

[@DianeZinna](#) Oh, okay. Can't obsess about the questions then, lol.



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

[@NaimaHazelton @awpwriter](#) I think the questions show that we care about your journey and not just your level or publications. [#AWPmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

We tend to set aside the apps from those looking at this as a fast path to publication. [#awpmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

W2W is about relationship building between 2 writers and their mutual growth. Mentors often state they learn just as much. [#awpmentorship](#)



[Emily Walling @er_walling](#)

Do some of the mentors and mentees continue a relationship or stay in contact after the program is over? [#AWPmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Absolutely, Emily! We send out surveys to past participants and almost everyone is still in contact [#awpmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

We send 3 applications, along with writing samples, to each mentor. The mentor chooses the 1 person they want to work with. [#AWPmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

This past session all of our mentees were women: <http://bit.ly/216bgYq> [#AWPmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Mentors don't tend to look for the best or most accomplished writer. They look for the person they think they can best help. [#AWPmentorship](#)



[Seth Brady Tucker @Airbornepoet](#)

[#awpmentorship](#) This is a great program for both mentors and mentees alike. Be warned, however: autocorrect changes mentees to menses!



[Naima Hazelton @NaimaHazelton](#)

[#AWPmentorship](#) What did you focus on in your applications, mentees? Strengths/weaknesses, goals, past mentor/mentee experiences, etc?



[R.L. Maizes @RL_Maizes](#)

[@NaimaHazelton](#) The questions in the application gave me an opportunity to think deeply about what I wanted from a mentorship. [@awpmentorship](#)



[Naima Hazelton @NaimaHazelton](#)

[@RL_Maizes](#) Did you find that or something else though the process? I have ideas...but you don't know what you don't know, you know?



[R.L. Maizes @RL_Maizes](#)

[@NaimaHazelton](#) not sure what you are asking. Can you explain?



[Naima Hazelton @NaimaHazelton](#)

[@RL Maizes](#) Did u get what you wanted out of the mentorship process? In retrospect, did u discover something u weren't explicitly expecting?



[R.L. Maizes @RL Maizes](#)

[@NaimaHazelton](#) my mentor was generous in sharing his story. The program got everyone thinking big picture. And my cohort became close.



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Mentees then have the final decision on whether that person is best for them.

[#AWPmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

To the mentors who are chatting with us today--what made you choose your mentee?

[#AWPmentorship](#)



[Naima Hazelton @NaimaHazelton](#)

[@DianeZinna](#) Oh, I learned something there...didn't know they *choose* mentees!



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

[@NaimaHazelton @awpwriter](#) Yes, the mentors come into it wanting to work with YOU. [#AWPmentorship](#)



[Brandi Megan Granett @brandigranett](#)

[@DianeZinna](#) gut feeling! I opened the app and thought oh, there she is!!!



[Paul Pedroza @paulsilence](#)

[@DianeZinna](#) enthusiasm; strong sample; a true fit for this program, not someone asking for help placing complete manuscript; dedication



[Jennifer Morales @MoralesWrites](#)

[@NaimaHazelton @awpwriter](#) I wanted to explore a different form of teaching (and learning) & help other queer writers of color grow.



[Jennifer Morales @MoralesWrites](#)

[@DianeZinna @awpwriter](#) The quality of her writing, for sure. But also the opportunity to assist a queer POC in navigating the writing world.



[Ruth Ebenstein @RuthEbenstein](#)

Any tips you'd give your sibling on what to include in application? [#AWPmentorship](#) so exciting that this opportunity is out there! thanks!!



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

[@RuthEbenstein](#) You can preview the mentor: <http://bit.ly/29SEPyx> and mentee: <http://bit.ly/29zhgWN> questions on our site [#awpmentorship](#)



[Ruth Ebenstein @RuthEbenstein](#)

[@DianeZinna](#), thank you!! Much appreciated. Regards from Jerusalem, Israel



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

[@RuthEbenstein](#) 2/2 These give you a sense of the kinds of questions we ask. Be open. Give us enough info to find YOUR mentor [#awpmentorship](#)



[Ruth Ebenstein @RuthEbenstein](#)

[@DianeZinna](#), I hear you. I'll have a look. I'm VERY open in sharing. Agree that it's critical - matchmaking is an art. Thanks for your time.



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Getting so many questions! Thank you! It may take me a bit of time to address them all, but I will! [#AWPmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

For our mentors on this chat—What advice do you have for future Writer to Writer mentors?
[#AWPmentorship](#)



[Ashley Barnett Smith @Ashlybsmith](#)

[@DianeZinna](#) [@awpwriter](#) Be true to your story, give you heart in it.



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

And for our mentees on this chat—What advice do you have for future Writer to Writer mentees? [#awpmentorship](#)



[R.L. Maizes @RL_Maizes](#)

[@DianeZinna](#) participate in all that you can, Skypechats, modules, and don't be shy about communicating with your mentor. [#AWPmentorship](#)



[Colette Lunday @ColetteLunday](#)

[@DianeZinna](#) don't be afraid to take the challenges from your mentor. They want be a mentor and they are sharing their path [#awpmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

A quote from past W2W mentor Emilia Phillips: [@gracefulemia](#) [#awpmentorship](#)



"I wanted to cultivate a sense of generosity and a habit of challenging myself."

—Emilia Phillips, Mentor, Spring 2016



[Naima Hazelton @NaimaHazelton](#)

[#AWPmentorship](#) Once and future mentors, what do you personally hope to get out of working with a mentee? Other than the gratis membership :)



[Rachel Mennies @rmennies](#)

[@NaimaHazelton](#) I found that the program also helped me grow as a writer—a welcome challenge to consider writing practices from either “side”



[Naima Hazelton @NaimaHazelton](#)

[@rmennies](#) I've found that - in areas where I've mentored/taught - teaching it made it clearer to me. Like that?



[Rachel Mennies @rmennies](#)

[@NaimaHazelton](#) yes definitely! you're never too experienced to skip interrogating your own writing practices.



[Naima Hazelton @NaimaHazelton](#)

[@rmennies](#) Oh, nice!



[Jennifer Morales @MoralesWrites](#)

[@NaimaHazelton @awpwriter](#) I wanted to explore a different form of teaching (and learning) & help other queer writers of color grow.



[Naima Hazelton @NaimaHazelton](#)

[@MoralesWrites @awpwriter](#) Oh, yes, I saw not-traditionally represented communities was a criteria. Do you think *confidence plays into that?



[Jennifer Morales @MoralesWrites](#)

[@NaimaHazelton @awpwriter](#) Yes. The "successful" writing world is super male, white & hetero. Tough for LGBTQ/POC writers to envision success



[Naima Hazelton @NaimaHazelton](#)

[@MoralesWrites @awpwriter](#) That's why I didn't accept an invitation to MFA/PhD from my professor. Tho my college mentors were great.



[Naima Hazelton @NaimaHazelton](#)

[@MoralesWrites @awpwriter](#) Oh, yes, I saw not-traditionally represented communities was a criteria. Do you think *confidence plays into that?



[S.L.Penner @sl_penner](#)

[@NaimaHazelton @awpwriter](#) my main reason for applying will be advice re: manuscript revisions - approach, sequence, etc.



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

A quote from Lara Palmqvist, who took part as a mentee while residing in the Ukraine last season [#AWPmentorship](#)



"The writing world (and, let's be honest, the world at large) could use more of Writer to Writer's inviting, we-all-rise-together mentality. It's rare, unfortunately, but that also makes me cherish what this program helped us build all the more."

—Lara Palmqvist, Mentee, Spring 2016



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Sometimes apps from people of color express a desire for a mentor with the same background & those mentors aren't there. [#awpmentorship](#).



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Mentor applications are available year-round. Apply today.

<http://bit.ly/1S31v2> [#AWPmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Mentee applications will be available August 1–12. Put it on your calendar!

<http://bit.ly/1S31v2> [#AWPmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Again, AWP membership is required to apply, but there is no additional fee. [#awpmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Our mentoring sessions cover six modules over a three-month period. [#AWPmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Module 1 focuses on beginnings: “What initially attracts you most to a piece of writing?”
[#AWPmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Module 2 is all about community and connections: “How can I find a community that will support me?” [#AWPmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Module 3 centers on craft: “What is the most interesting craft or forms exercise you have taught or done?” [#AWPmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Module 4’s topic is revision: “Have you ever started a new piece with a section you removed from another?” [#AWPmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Module 5 looks at publishing: “What is something you didn’t expect that happened as a result of your being published?” [#AWPmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Module 6 examines sustaining a writing life: How do you make time to write while dealing with family & job responsibilities? [#AWPmentorship](#)



[Michael Wells @stickpoet](#)

[@DianeZinna](#) Can you explain the modules?



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

[@stickpoet](#) Hi Michael! I just tweeted a few module questions if you scroll backwards. Or email me: diane@awpwriter.org
[#awpmentorship](#)



[Michael Wells @stickpoet](#)

[@DianeZinna](#) I saw them, Thank you! this has been interesting.



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

These module questions I posted are just examples. Each module includes several q's and then activities to do together. [#AWPMentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

We have had some very memorable pairings. [#AWPMentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

[@realjefferyhess](#) runs a writing group w/ military vets; was paired with a military wife longing to tell her husband's story. [#AWPMentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

We had a writer working on an opera libretto about a Native American tribe paired with the amazing Native author [@ehhayes](#). [#AWPMentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

[@rmennies](#), whose WWII-era book the Glad Hand of God Points Backwards was paired with a writer working on a similar theme [#AWPMentorship](#)



[Paul Pedroza @paulsilence](#)

Because an MFA program isn't the only or always the best option [#AWPMentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

A beautiful quote from [@rmennies](#), past W2W mentor [#awpmentorship](#)

"The best advice I've ever received
about my writing is to remember
that we're writers (art-makers)
first, and authors second."

--Rachel Mennies
W2W Mentor, Spring 2015





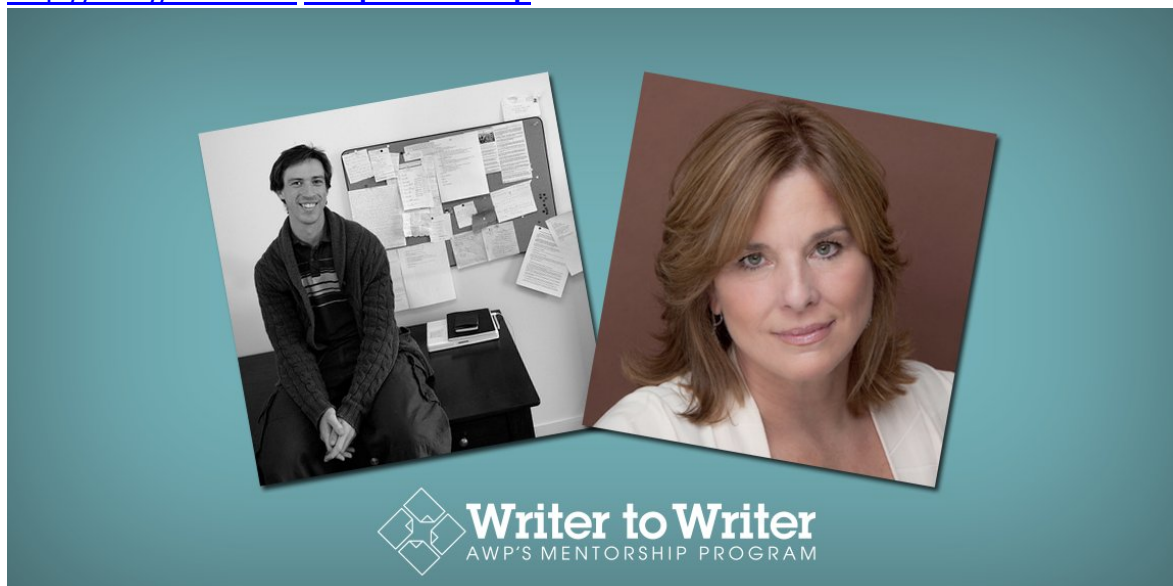
[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Our first playwrights, [@kellyjo9](#) [@dgswriter](#) wrote of their W2W experience:
<http://bit.ly/1Opp9uK> [#AWPmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

2 writers with disabilities wrote of their W2W experiences:
<http://bit.ly/1Rok6AC> [#awpmentorship](#)





[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Last session we selected fewer than 50% of the people who applied to serve as mentors to participate. [#AWPmentorship](#)



[Nancy Hawkins @NancyHa38987620](#)

[@DianeZinna](#) How wonderful that you have so many fine people to choose from!



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Before choosing our mentors, we look at all of the mentee applications first to see what that round's applicants are wanting. [#AWPmentorship](#)



[Brandi Megan Granett @brandigranett](#)

[@DianeZinna](#) it is great to match with a mentee [#AWPmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

[@brandigranett](#) has served with us twice--two great, unique pairings! [#awpmentorship](#)
[@awpwriter](#)



[R.L. Maizes @RL_Maizes](#)

As a mentee it was fascinating to learn the journey of an accomplished writer, the bumps and setbacks, and the successes. [#AWPmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

We want our mentors to have pure intentions, too. If it's clear they are applying to promote a book, we set the app aside. [#AWPmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

We celebrate our mentors and mentees in our social media and at the AWP conference. [#AWPmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Speaking of the conference, I'll post some pictures now of faces you may have seen at the AWP Booth at the LA Bookfair [#AWPmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Mentor-mentee pair Brandi Granett [@brandigranett](#) & her mentee, Taylor Lauren Ross [@Taylorlaurenr](#) [#AWPmentorship](#)





[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Mentor-mentee pair Najiyah Maxfield & her mentee Cynthia Huijgens [#AWPmentorship](#)



[Listen to KittyMouth @stefburn](#)

So if I'm looking for a Black mentor, there's a possibility that one may not be present that is familiar with my genre? [#AWPmentorship](#)



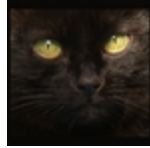
[Naima Hazelton @NaimaHazelton](#)

[@stefburn](#) read back in the last [#AWPmentorship](#) chat and they matched an indigenous mentee and mentor which was, I think, the 'magic' at wrk



[Naima Hazelton @NaimaHazelton](#)

[@stefburn](#) I think it was 7/7.



[Listen to KittyMouth @stefburn](#)

[@NaimaHazelton](#) okay thanks I'll check that out.



[Naima Hazelton @NaimaHazelton Jul 14](#)

[@stefburn](#) I'm in the same boat. Writing a historical non-fiction at an AA hospital. If not now, maybe another session.



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

[@stefburn](#) 2/2 Last season, for example, we had 19 pairings. Divided by 4 genres...you can see how it can be challenging! [#awpmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

[@stefburn](#) 1/1 We actively reach out to writers of color to be mentors but it's possible we won't have a WOC in your genre [@awpmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Mentor-mentee pair Lori Ostlund [@Loriostlund](#) & Whitney Wimbish [@whitneycwimbish](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

At the W2W LA conference reception: Sharon Estill Taylor & her mentee, Mariah Mottley
[#awpmentorship](#)





[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

At the W2W LA conference reception: Mentor Norma Cantú [@normaelia](#) & her mentee, Mele Martinez [#awpmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

At the W2W LA conference reception: Mentor Kristiana Kahakauwila & her mentee, [@SeaStachura](#) [#awpmentorship](#)





[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Their joint reading made the bartender cry: Mentor Fred Arroyo & his mentee, [@anandalima](#)
[#awpmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Though we didn't expect this, almost half of our mentors have asked to serve again.
[#awpmentorship](#).



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Mentors need to be AWP member in good standing and have at least one published book.
[#awpmentorship](#).



[billykilgore](#) [@billydkilgore](#)

Great program! a tremendous help to my writing life and pointed me in the right direction. Grateful for the opportunity [#AWPmentorship](#)



[Emily Walling](#) [@er_walling](#)

[@DianeZinna](#) Can you give us an idea of how many mentors and mentees apply each time? [#AWPmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna](#) [@DianeZinna](#)

[@er_walling](#) 1/2 It varies...I would say between 200 and 400 apps from potential mentees each session. [#AWPmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna](#) [@DianeZinna](#)

[@er_walling](#) 2/2 If you don't get matched one season, try again! Your mentor may be just waiting for you! [#AWPmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna](#) [@DianeZinna](#)

[#AWPmentorship](#) was a v rich experience; my mentee & I are still in touch & she's working on a couple of diff [#fiction](#) mss --[@ChristineSneed](#)



[Ruth Ebenstein @RuthEbenstein](#)

[#AWPmentorship](#), This whole conversation alone inspires and injects hope and a sense of community! I keep saying, WOW, and great. Thanks!



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

"The program was amazing! Great questions to jumpstart conversations w/ my mentor. " --Ann DeVilbiss, Mentee, Spring 2016 [#awpmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

"Indebted to my [#awpmentorship](#) mentor, Fred Arroyo, for his insight, patience, & guidance." – Mona Alvarado Frazier, Mentee, Fall 2014



[R.L. Maizes @RL_Maizes](#)

The program is also a chance to get to be part of a community of writers. Mentees help and support one another. [#AWPmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Keep your questions coming! I'm getting faster at these! [#awpmentorship](#)



[Evan Morgan Williams @EvMoWi](#)

[#AWPmentorship](#) Hope people see that the workshop model isn't the be-all-end-all. Mentoring-Protege is time-honored tradish. [#SteinHemingway](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

A quote from mentor Earl Swift. [#AWPmentorship](#)



"We writers are much like rivers—we're the sum of many streams. As a mentor, I hope to serve as a useful stream."

—Earl Swift,
W2W Creative Nonfiction Mentor,
Fall 2015



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

A quote from past mentor dawn lonsinger [#AWPmentorship](#)



"Mentoring has come to resemble a spiritual practice for me, because I think it has as much to do with sharing what I have learned about writing and literature, as it does with teaching compassion, passion, risk, courage, and civic engagement."

—dawn lonsinger, Mentor, Spring 2016





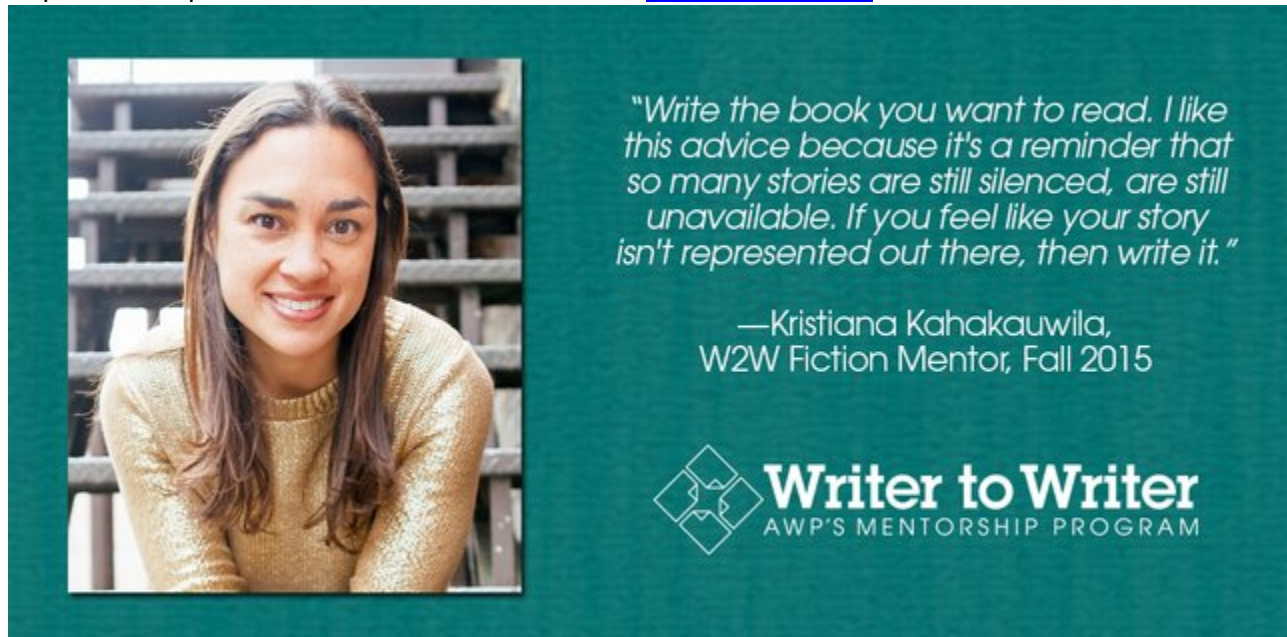
[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

A quote from past mentee [@JuliaLaxer #AWPmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

A quote from past mentor Kristiana Kahakauwila [#awpmentorship](#)





[Naima Hazelton @NaimaHazelton](#)

[#AWPmentorship](#) so much to ask...what if you don't know what you don't know. I'm sure I could make a guess, but what's a good way to examine?



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

A quote from mentee [@WhitneyCWimbish](#) [#awpmentorship](#)





[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

A quote from Michael Broder, past W2W mentor [#AWPmentorship](#)



"Some people are mentorship magnets—everybody wants to help them the moment they meet them—and other people are not. I was not. And I think those are the people who need the most help. But they need help from people like me, who realize how hard it can be to get the help you need."

—Michael Broder,
W2W Poetry Mentor, Fall 2015



Writer to Writer
AWP'S MENTORSHIP PROGRAM



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

A quote from [@Kerrin_McCadden](#), past W2W mentor [#AWPmentorship](#)



"The relationships forged in mentorship give the mentee an avenue for all those dark-of-the-night questions—a place to really ask them with intent and open ears."

—Kerrin McCadden,
W2W Poetry Mentor, Fall 2015



Writer to Writer
AWP'S MENTORSHIP PROGRAM



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

A quote from Leslie Schwartz, past W2W mentor. [#AWPmentorship](#)



"Mentoring is an extraordinary experience and one I rely on to keep my own creative self alive."

—Leslie Schwartz,
W2W Fiction Mentor, Fall 2015



Writer to Writer
AWP'S MENTORSHIP PROGRAM



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#) 21m21 minutes ago

A quote from past W2W mentor, [@RachelHowzell](#) Hall [#AWPmentorship](#)



"I want to pay it forward, be there for someone who may feel as marginalized as I did."

—Rachel Howzell Hall,
W2W Fiction Mentor, Fall 2015



Writer to Writer
AWP'S MENTORSHIP PROGRAM



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

I see a ton of questions coming to my email box, too! Email me your questions:
diane@awpwriter.org [#AWPmentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

For more information about the Writer to Writer Mentorship Program:
[https://www.awpwriter.org/community_calendar/mentorship_program_overview ...](https://www.awpwriter.org/community_calendar/mentorship_program_overview...)
[#AWPmentorship](#)



[Naima Hazelton @NaimaHazelton](#)

[@MoralesWrites @awpwriter](#) And not having an MFA works well for [#AWPmentorship](#)
so...hopeful.



[Jennifer Morales @MoralesWrites](#)

[@NaimaHazelton @awpwriter](#) My mentee didn't have an MFA, but had written a
couple book drafts, stories, lectures--doing the work! Apply!



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Thank you all for taking the time to learn about Writer to Writer Mentorship Program today. It
has been a joy! [#AWPmentorship](#)



[Naima Hazelton @NaimaHazelton](#)

Thank you so much. And thanks to all the [#AWPmentorship](#) community for answering questions and giving feedback!



[AWP @awpwriter](#)

Thanks for joining us for our [#AWPmentorship](#) tweet chat!



[AWP @awpwriter](#)

Find all of our previous chats in our archive:

https://www.awpwriter.org/community_calendar/tweet_chats... [#AWPmentorship](#)



[Naima Hazelton @NaimaHazelton](#)

[@awpwriter](#) Hey, everyone applying: let's tweet when we get our applications submitted? Just for accountability! For me, lol. [#AWPmentorship](#)



[Emily Walling @er_walling](#)

Great advice from the [#AWPmentorship](#) Tweet Chat. Can't wait to send in my application again next month!



[Eliot Treichel @eliotttreichel](#)

[#AWPmentorship](#) is a powerful and affirming program! Highly recommend it!



[Peace @pdkeenen](#)

At LA [#awp16](#) Conference Mentor [@minalh](#) & mentee [@pdkeenen](#) [#awpmentorship](#) APPLY NOW meet your mentor!

